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1 December 1988

NOTE FOR: DCI - DDCI

FROM: EA/DCI - EA/DDCI

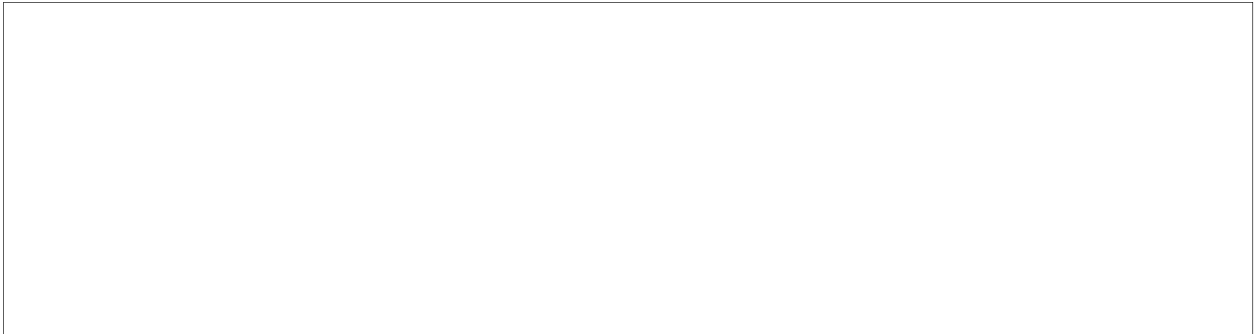
SUBJECT: Late Items for State Meeting

Gorbachev's Trip to the U.S. You may wish to hand the Secretary a copy of the attached DI typescript entitled "Gorbachev's Three Nation Trip". This paper provides the DI's assessment of subjects Gorbachev may raise during his New York visit, as well as the main objectives behind his subsequent visit to Havana and London. You will recall at last week's meeting, the Secretary was interested in subjects Gorbachev might raise in New York, particularly those issues he might want to discuss with the U.S. President. [REDACTED]

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Gorbachev may raise with the President a new conventional arms control proposal. This proposal could include a unilateral Soviet troop drawdown in Eastern Europe. Attached are two copies of the typescript.

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

1 December 1988

Gorbachev's Three Nation Trip

We believe Gorbachev's decision to travel to the United States at this time was driven in large measure by his desire to preserve the momentum of his personal dialogue with the US President as a new administration prepares to take office.

- An early resumption of the START negotiations, a successful conclusion to the mandate talks on conventional arms control, and Afghanistan are likely to be major items on his agenda.
- [redacted] Gorbachev intends to present "new proposals" in New York; most of these reports focus on potential initiatives on conventional forces. (See Attachment A)
- Other [redacted] possible new initiatives on SLCMs, linkage between START and SDI and sub-START side agreements.

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Gorbachev's main objective at his next stop, Havana, probably will be to persuade a defiant Castro of the need to reform Cuba's economy to make better use of Soviet aid. By sandwiching the visit between two higher profile stops, Gorbachev can avoid calling undue international attention to his differences with Castro, allowing him to deal with contentious issues privately while emphasizing the positive for public consumption. (See Attachment B)

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This memorandum was prepared by the Office of Soviet Analysis (SOVA). Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Regional Policy Division, SOVA [redacted]

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Finally, in the British leg of the trip, Gorbachev will emphasize arms control and trade issues and seek to build on the momentum of his recent meetings with West European leaders. The timing of Gorbachev's stop in Great Britain (12-14 December), before his anticipated trips to France and West Germany next year, reflects his regard for Prime Minister Thatcher's influence with the United States and in European councils. (See Attachment C)

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